

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/921,659

Examiner

Ashok B. Patel

Applicant(s)

SHERWOOD, AMY L.

Art Unit

2154

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 01/30/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-8,15,17-19 and 29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SUPERVISOR  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 3-8, 15, 17-19 and 29 are allowed. Claims 2, 9-14, 16 and 20-28 are cancelled.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a fax dated 04/11/2006 from Benjamin A. Balser.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

- a. Claims 2, 9-14, 16 and 20-28 are cancelled.
- b. Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method for selectively applying a delivery notification option to an email comprising:

listing email addresses;

selecting a plurality of said email addresses in the course of composing an email message;

maintaining a first list for ~~a presence or absence of~~ a first type of delivery

notification option and a second list for ~~a presence or absence of~~ a second type of delivery notification option;

selectively applying the delivery notification option to one or more, but not

all, of said plurality of email addresses;

moving each of the one or more email addresses with a delivery notification option applied to it into the first list, second list, or both lists corresponding to the selected delivery notification option; and

displaying an address book with the listed email addresses;

setting a flag indicating that more than one address has been chosen;

displaying an email delivery notification options selection window if said flag is set wherein the email delivery notification options selection window permits selective application of at least one of delivery confirmation and read receipt;

saving a configuration of delivery notification option settings that is associated with a first set of addresses;

matching a second set of addresses with the first set of addresses and automatically setting delivery notification options with respect to the first set of addresses;

selecting the delivery notification option from the options of delivery confirmation and read receipt and

sending the email to said plurality of email addresses.

c. Claim 15. (Currently Amended) An email system for providing selective application of delivery notification options to individual addresses in a single email, comprising:

means for listing email addresses on a computer;

Art Unit: 2154

means for selecting a plurality of said email addresses in the course of  
composing an email message;

means for maintaining a first list for ~~a presence or absence of~~ a first type of  
delivery notification option and a second list for ~~a presence or absence of~~ a  
second type of delivery notification option;

means for selectively applying the delivery notification option to one or more, but  
not all, of said plurality of email addresses;

means for saving a configuration of delivery notification option settings that is  
associated with a first set of addresses;

means for matching a second set of addresses with the first set of addresses  
and automatically setting delivery notification options saved with respect  
to the first set of addresses;

means for moving each of the one or more email addresses with a delivery  
notification option applied to it into the first list, second list, or both lists  
corresponding to the selected delivery notification option;

wherein the delivery notification option is selected from delivery  
confirmation and read receipt; and

means for sending the email to said plurality of email addresses.

d. Claim 29. (Currently Amended) An email system for selectively applying delivery  
notification options to an email having a plurality of addressees, comprising:

an email client operable to display an address list and to select addressees  
for an email; and

an email server in communication with the email client and connected to a network;

wherein at least one of the email client and the email server is operable to selectively apply, corresponding to input from a user, a delivery notification option to one or more, but not all, of the addressees;

wherein at least one of the email client and the email server is further operable to maintain a first list for ~~a presence or absence of~~ a first type of delivery notification option and a second list for ~~a presence or absence of~~ a second type of delivery notification option; and to move each of the one or more email addresses with a delivery notification option applied to it into the first list, second list, or both lists corresponding to the selected delivery notification option as selected by a user;

wherein one of the email client and email server, corresponding to input from a user, sends a separate email for a group of addressees that have the same delivery notification option configuration;

wherein one of the email client and email server, corresponding to input from a user, saves a configuration of delivery notification option settings that is associated with a first set of addressees;

wherein one of the email client and email server matches a second set of addressees with the first set of addressees and automatically sets delivery notification options saved with respect to the first set of addressees;

wherein the delivery notification options comprise delivery confirmation and read receipt;

wherein one of the email client and the email server is configured to set a flag indicating that more than, one address has been chosen;

wherein one of the email client and the email server is configured to display an email delivery notification options selection window if said flag is set wherein the email delivery notification options selection window permits selective application of at least one of delivery confirmation and read receipt.

#### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior arts of record teach or suggest the claimed limitation with respect to selectively applying the delivery notification option to one or more, but not all, of said plurality of email addresses; moving each of the one or more email addresses with a delivery notification option applied to it into the first list, second list, or both lists corresponding to the selected delivery notification option; displaying an address book with the listed email addresses; setting a flag indicating that more than one address has been chosen: displaying an email delivery notification options selection window if said flag is set wherein the email delivery notification options selection window permits selective application of at least one of delivery confirmation and read receipt; saving a configuration of delivery notification option settings that is associated with a first set of addresses; matching a second set of addresses with the first set of addresses and

Art Unit: 2154


automatically setting delivery notification options with respect to the first set of addresses; selecting the deliver notification option from the options of delivery confirmation and read receipt and sending the email to said plurality of email addresses along with other claim limitations. None of the prior arts of record teach or suggest the claimed limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SUPERVISOR  
TECHNOLOG. CENTER 2154